

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of

Nozer M. MEHTA et al.

Serial No.: 09/500,009

Filed: February 8, 2000

For: DIRECT EXPRESSION OF PEPTIDES INTO CULTURE MEDIA



Date: October 5, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: H. Schnizer

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER - FEE COMPUTATION

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

"Small Entity" status (37 C.F.R. §1.9 & §1.27) established
 previously by enclosed verified statement.

OFGS Check No. _____, which includes the fee of \$ -0- calculated below, is attached.

NO. CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA PRESENT	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL 12	MINUS 20	* = 0	(\$9 SE or \$18)	\$0.00
INDEP. 2	MINUS 3	** = 0	(\$40 SE or \$80)	\$0.00
<u>FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM</u>		X	(\$135 SE or \$270)	\$0.00
* not less than 20 ** not less than 3			TOTAL	\$0.00

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 5, 2000.

Charles C. Achkar

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative*Charles C. Achkar*

Signature

October 5, 2000

Date of Signature

WOG/CCA:lac

Respectfully submitted,

Charles C. Achkar

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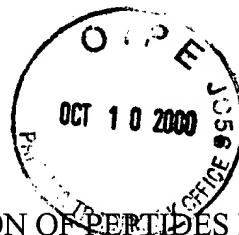
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10/17/00
#68 T. Gray

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JUNE 7, 2000 OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 7, 2000, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claim 16 as follows:

--16. (Twice Amended) An expression vector comprising a plurality of transcription cassettes, each cassette comprises:

(a) a coding region with nucleic acids coding for a peptide product coupled in reading frame 3' of nucleic acids coding for a signal peptide;

(b) a control region linked operably with the coding region, said control region comprising a plurality of promoters and at least one ribosome binding site, wherein at least one of said promoters is tac; and

(c) nucleic acids coding for at least one secretion enhancing peptide.--

REMARKS

Claims 16-19, 21, 28-31, 39, 71 and 74 were pending in this application. According to the June 7, 2000 Office Action, claims 16-19, 21, 28-31, 39, 71 and 74 were rejected. Applicants have hereinabove amended claim 16. Accordingly, claims 16-19, 21, 28-31, 39, 71 and 74 are under consideration. Applicants maintain that the amendments do not introduce any new matter.